#### HOW MUCH FERTILIZER IS NEEDED?

- Determine annual fertility needs based on lawn type.
- Measure the square footage of lawn area by multiplying length times width.
- Determine how much slow release nitrogen (SRN) is in your fertilizer which determines the application rate, 1 lb N versus 0.7 lb N per 1000 sq ft.
- Divide 100 by the % nitrogen (first number on bag) to get pounds of fertilizer to apply per 1000 sq ft. This amount is at the one pound N rate. You can also use the table below to find out how much fertilizer to spread per 1000 sq ft based on the % N. If the SRN is less than 30%, multiply this amount by 0.7.

% N in bag	6	10	12	15	16
Pounds	16.8	10	8.4	6.6	6.2
Cups	35	19	17.5	14.5	13

For more information, refer to the Florida Yards website at **floridafriendlylandscaping.com.** 



# UF | IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

# The Duval County Extension Office is Available to Help

The Duval County Extension Office, which is associated with the University of Florida, is ready to assist homeowners with questions and concerns about Florida friendly yards and landscapes.

Duval County Extension Office 1010 N. McDuff Avenue Jacksonville, Fl 32254 (904) 255-7450 sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu

# DUVAL COUNTY FERTILIZER ORDINANCE

Ordinance Code
Chapter 366 – Part 6

Effective July 2008

**A Guide for Homeowners** Protecting Duval County's Water Supply

# Homeowner Florida-Friendly Landscaping Workshops

Homeowners are required to follow the guidelines of the University of Florida IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program when applying fertilizers. Classes are held at the Duval County Extension Office. Check the IFAS Calendar at **calendar.ifas.ufl.edu** for class information, or call (904) 255-7450 to schedule a class for your group.

#### **Soil Testing**

The Extension Office provides free pH testing. To have samples tested for Ca, K, and P, they must be sent to the University of Florida Soil Testing Lab. Forms can be picked up at the Duval County Extension Office.



# THE ENVIRONMENT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

This ordinance affects fertilizer applications to turf, specialty turf, and landscape plants made by homeowners & businesses in the green industry

## Select a Florida-Friendly Fertilizer

Choose a fertilizer that has equal or near equal amounts of nitrogen (first number) and potassium (third number). Phosphorous (second number) should be 2 or less.

Use fertilizers with 30% or more slow release nitrogen (SRN). There is less potential of runoff or leaching. To calculate the % of SRN, find the amount of SRN on the label, divide that amount by the total nitrogen and multiply by 100.

#### **Fertilizer Spreaders**

A drop spreader or rotary spreader may be used to apply fertilizers. But, if a rotary spreader is used, a deflector shield is required and should be positioned so that granular fertilizers are not applied to hard surfaces or 'no treat zones'.



## Fertilizer Application Rules and Rates

- Do not apply fertilizer during prohibited periods:
  - Flood Watch or Warning
  - · Tropical Storm Watch or Warning
  - 3-day cone of uncertainty during a hurricane
  - Heavy rain
- Fertilizer with 30% slow release nitrogen or more can be applied at no more than 1 lb. N/1000 sq. ft. per application.
- > Fertilizer with less than 30% slow release nitrogen can be applied at no more than **0.70** lbs. N/1000 sq. ft. per application.
- After application, apply 1/4" water to prevent fertilizer loss.

Lawn Type	Total Rate Per Year		
Bahia Grass	2-3 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft.		
Bermuda Grass	3-5 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft.		
Centipede Grass	1-2 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft.		
St Augustine Grass	2-4 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft.		
Zoysia Grass	3-5 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft.		

#### **Phosphate Applications**

- Phosphate applications cannot exceed 0.25 lbs P205/1000 sq ft 2 per application or 0.50 lbs P205/1000 sq ft 2 per year.
- Includes turf and landscape plants.
- A soil test must be completed by UF or an accredited lab for higher rates to be applied.
- A one-time application of starter fertilizer may be used for new turf or landscape plants, but should not exceed 1.0 lb P2O5/1000 sq ft

#### **Impervious Surfaces**

- > Fertilizer applied, spilled, or deposited on impervious surfaces (roads, sidewalks, etc.) should be cleaned up immediately and applied to a legal site or returned to its container.
- > Do not wash, sweep, or blow fertilizer into storm drains, ditches, conveyances, or water bodies.

### Fertilizer Free Zones / No Treat Zones

- 10' zone is required around water bodies, wetlands, canals, seawalls, etc. if no deflector shield is used on rotary or cyclone spreaders.
- 3' zone around water bodies, wetlands, canals, seawalls, etc. is required if a deflector shield or drop spreader is used.
- New plants in this zone may be fertilized for the first 60 days only.

#### **Low Maintenance Zones**

- Must be established one year from effective date of this ordinance, July 23, 2008.
- Minimum of a 6' low maintenance zone from any pond, stream, water course, wetland, or seawall.
- A swale/berm system is recommended.
- No mowed or cut vegetative material shall be deposited or left remaining in the Low Maintenance Zone or deposited in the water.
- > Care should be taken to prevent over-spraying aquatic weed products in this area.

#### **Grass Clippings**

Do not wash, sweep, or blow grass clippings, vegetative material or debris into storm water drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies, wetlands, or sidewalks, or roadways.